

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 DHAKA 004483

SIPDIS

FOR I/FW, B/G, IIP/G/NEA-SA, B/VOA/N (BANGLA SERVICE) STATE
FOR SA/PAB, SA/PPD (LSCENSNY), SA/RA, INR/R/MR, AND PASS TO
USAID FOR ANE/ASIA/SA/B

CINCPAC FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR, J51 (LCDR FLETCHER),
J45 (MAJ NICHOLLS)

USARPAC FOR APOP-IM (MAJ STYNER)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KMDR](#) [OIIP](#) [OPRC](#) [KPAO](#) [PREL](#) [ETRD](#) [PTER](#) [ASEC](#) [BG](#) [OCII](#)

SUBJECT: Media Reaction: Iraq Constitution Bangladesh-U.S.
Bilateral 9/11 anniversary; Dhaka

Summary: "New Age" front page article suggests that the new constitution in Iraq would on the one hand be another step towards a US pullout and on the other ensure US control over Iraqi oil, with plans to destroy OPEC's control over oil. "Daily Star" editorial says it is heartening to know that the media of the United States thought highly of the way Bangladesh has been managing the prelude to and aftermath of natural disasters the country has been historically vulnerable to.

"Ittefaq" editorial says on the anniversary of 9/11 that terrorism means destruction and death.

[1](#)1. Iraq Constitution

"Iraq Constitution Points To War On Terror's Agenda"
Independent English language newspaper "New Age" front-page article comments (9/11):

The US-led invasion of Iraq dubbed as the "war on terror" sparked off by the twin tower bombings in New York four years ago today seems to be attaining its hidden agenda after all. Although the "war on terror," as its champions claimed, would promote democracy abolishing a "rogue" state, quashing threats of future attacks on America, the new Iraqi constitution points otherwise. With a new constitution, that would on the one hand be another step towards a US pullout and on the other ensure US control over Iraqi oil, plans to destroy OPEC's control over oil seems to be near realization. Together with the Saudi and Iraqi oil under its control - constituting about half the world's oil reserves - US political and economic hegemony would be ensured for quite some time. Behind the guarantees of democratic and civil liberty, the Iraqi constitution proposes regions and provinces that would have authority over their own natural resources. In fact the US has influenced drafting the constitution to ensure its interests. Otherwise, the US interests and those of the oil lobby it caters to would not be fulfilled in the long term, after the occupation army withdraws from a "free" Iraq.

[1](#)2. U.S. - Bangladesh Bilateral

"Praise for Bangladesh: Acknowledgement Is Much Appreciated"
Independent English language "Daily Star" editorially comments (9/10/05):

Much that we are swathed in compassion and sympathy for the unprecedented damage and devastation caused by the catastrophic Katrina, it is nonetheless heartening to know that the media of the United States thought highly of the way Bangladesh has been managing the prelude to and aftermath of natural disasters the country has been historically vulnerable to. In fact Bangladesh became popularly known in the West as the country of "natural disasters" in the eighties and nineties when natural calamities struck the country almost every year leaving behind a trail of extensive destruction and huge loss of lives. But now the acknowledgements by the media in the US about our efficient handling of disaster situations, in the wake of their own calamity in the last week or so, should be much appreciated. There is no doubt that Bangladesh, over the years, has achieved considerable expertise in disaster management in the whole world. Especially since the nature's egregious plunder of 1991 when at least one hundred and thirty thousand people died in one of the biggest cyclones of recent times. The elevated cyclone shelters built by the Bangladesh government along the coastal regions, more emphasis by the authorities on storm warning system using

indigenous methods to evacuate people -- all these have contributed largely in decreasing the number of casualties in later calamities.

13. Anniversary of 9/11

"Today Is 9/11"

Large circulation Bangla daily "Ittefaq" editorially comments:

9/11 is a testimony to the fact how unkind and gruesome terrorism can be. The terrorists used some innocent people to kill many more innocent people that day.

The past and the contemporary world show that humanity is at stake wherever terrorism exists. Death haunts those places where terrorism reigns. Terrorism means destruction and death. The negative reaction of the 9/11 tragedy still continues and will continue in future. 9/11 is a turning point in history. The world before 9/11 and after 9/11 is quite different. No one can say how long the world community will have to go through the aftermaths of the tragedy.

Chammas